

The Temperance Worker

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6.

THE SCOTT ACT CAMPAIGN.

The next Scott Act contest to be decided at the polls is a double one. Brantford, city and Brant county, vote on Thursday next, 11th of December. On the following Thursday the united counties of Leeds and Grenville vote. Let the temperance men and women do their best, and pray God to do the rest.

In Brantford, out of 2,000 voters, 955 have pledged themselves to vote for the Act. There are about 30 hotel-keepers in the city, however, and their influence is of course considerable.

The campaign has been fairly opened in Kingston city. During this month Mrs. Baxter and the Rev. W. W. McKay will speak, Mr. R. Clark and Col. Bain in January, the Hon. J. B. Finch in February, and Mrs. McLaughlin in March. The contest is likely to be a hard one in the city, but in the county (Frontenac) the Act is almost sure to carry.

The petition from the city of Guelph has been passed by the Minister of Justice, and a polling day will soon be fixed.

Some objections having been made to the Lennox and Addington petition, these counties are waiting patiently till the matter is decided, and hope that a polling day will soon be fixed.

The hotel-keepers in Prescott have formed an association to fight the Scott Act, and every hotel-keeper who does not subscribe his \$4.00 will be boycotted by the rest.

Mr. William Burgess, who has been speaking for the cause in Middlesex, says that there are more breweries in that county than in any other; however, all the churches,—including Catholic and Episcopalian,—are thoroughly united, and the prospect of carrying the Act is by no means bad.

A Scott Act campaign has been opened in Guysborough county, Nova Scotia.

COMPTON has, by a majority of about 450, decided to continue under the liquor traffic. It is only fair to this county to say that if the vote had been taken simply on the question "liquor-traffic or no liquor traffic," the result would have been very different. But unfortunately there was another element introduced into the contest,—the influence of certain individuals in high places, with the control of both money and men. The liquor party succeeded in converting the matter into a political issue, and by the grossest falsehoods and misrepresentations deceived the more unlearned portion of the electorate. The recent election will long remain a stain upon the record of Compton. But the dark cloud is not without its silver lining. The temperance people worked well, and they were assisted by the more enlightened of those who would probably not care to be called temperance people. Senator Cochrane publicly declared his intention of voting for the Act, and the township in which he lives gave a splendid majority on the right side. But the liquor traffic has gained a reprieve of three more years; and men and women who would have given their very lives to save loved ones from the accursed temptation of the drink shop are mourning over the defeat.

IN WEST VIRGINIA, petitions for a constitutional amendment prohibiting the liquor-traffic are being signed by the voters.

THE CURSE OF THE STATES.

IN GEORGIA, the Oglethorpe county grand jury has requested the stoppage of liquor licenses: "Leaving the moral aspect of the question out of view, it is the sense of this body that more money would be saved to the treasury by the suppression of liquor-shops than goes into it by the sale of licenses to them." An attempt has been made to repeal the local-option law in McDuffie county, but has been defeated by 539 against 386. A bill for State Prohibition has been introduced in the Legislature.

THE TEACHERS in Erie County, Pennsylvania, have decided in favor of making temperance a part of the Common-school education. All the other counties are likely to follow suit.

DAKOTA.—Eleven counties in Dakota are now free from licenses, and the legislature is to be petitioned to prohibit saloons within one mile of those counties' borders. The Methodist Episcopal Conference, at its annual meeting, has pledged its members to help elect total abstiners and prohibitionists to public offices, as the liquor party had resolved to vote for no one in any way disposed towards total abstinence.

CALIFORNIA has one saloon to every 100 people; San Francisco has one saloon to every 11 voters. The liquor traders have obtained the repeal of the Sunday laws. The wine-trade of the state is becoming very powerful. The Presbyterian Synod of the Pacific has adopted a report saying that the hardest battle will be fought in this state, and earnestly recommending the officers and members of churches to avoid all complicity with the wine traffic by growing grapes for wine.

THE MICHIGAN Baptist State Convention has recommended strong efforts in favor of the constitutional prohibitory amendment, which the Republican party proposes to submit to a vote.

IN NINETEEN COUNTIES of Indiana there are 1,132 saloons; in nine counties there are none. In the saloon counties there is one prisoner to every 72 voters; in the others there is only one prisoner to every 720. Draw your own conclusions.

IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Rev. C. H. Mead, sending to the National Temperance Advocate his account of a tour in the South, writes thus of Spartanburg, South Carolina: "This is a town of nearly 4,000 inhabitants, and for two years the drink-traffic has been voted out, and a man who says 'prohibition does not prohibit' cannot be found in the place. Intelligent men of both races bear abundant testimony to the efficacy of the law, and of the improved condition of both the morals and business of the community. The arrests for drunkenness ran down from 185 to 13 in a single year, and, whereas under license the streets were full of staggering men, such a thing as a drunken man is now rarely ever seen. They vote again upon it on the 29th of November, and the law has recently been changed so that the vote hereafter will be taken once in two years instead of annually."

WHILE OTHER BUSINESSES in the United States are in as dull and depressed a state as can well be, while factories are closing up or working on short time, while men are unemployed or having their wages reduced,—the liquor business, with its claws struck firmly into the body of the nation, continues to fatten on the life-blood and money that the nation can now spare less than ever. In the last financial year, the revenue from distilled spirits has increased by \$2,536,610 over that of 1883, and fermented liquors also show an increase of \$1,184,338.

THE WEEK.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, on receiving Lord Northbrook's report about the finances of Egypt, has drawn up a plan by which a new loan of \$25,000,000 will be raised and guaranteed by England, and the interest on the public debt will be reduced to half of one percent. The other European powers are asked to agree to this.

MRS. BOUTER, sentenced to death at Quebec for murder, has had her sentence commuted to imprisonment for life.

A MAN named Charles Nevil, who has been married to eight women in New York, Michigan, Canada, Detroit, etc., has been arrested at Toledo. He tried to commit suicide in jail, and the doctors say that he is an epileptic who is not responsible for his actions.

MADAME HUGUES, wife of a member of the French Chamber of Deputies, shot one Morin because she believed he had been slandering her. He declares his innocence. A law journal of Paris says that the increase of crimes like this, and the failure of juries to punish them, show that French manners are going back into barbarism.

A STATUE of the late George Brown has been unveiled at Toronto. Complimentary speeches were gracefully made by prominent Conservatives as well as Liberals.

"FIFTY YEARS IMPRISONMENT" is the sentence passed upon Samuel Wannamaker, at Youngstown, for forging notes for \$25,000. He is fifty years old, and is now dying.

THE MILLS AT FALL RIVER, MASS., have started work again.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS were felt in the south of France last Friday.

SEVERAL RAILWAYS have amalgamated and called themselves the Eastern and Western Air Line Company. Their railway will be built through Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

A NEW ANÆSTHETIC, hydrochlorate of cocaine, has been successfully tried in an operation at Portland, Maine. Whether it is expected to take the place of chloroform and ether, we are not told.

THE GREAT WINTER CARNIVAL, to be held at Montreal in the end of January, is to be of great magnificence. A deputation has gone to the President-elect, Governor Cleveland, to ask him to be present.

DIGGING FOR ROOTS on an island in the Suquehanna, near Danville, Pa., two men found a box containing \$47,000 worth of old Spanish and Mexican coins.

THE NATIONALISTS boast of a great increase to the "Young Ireland" societies in Dublin. At their public meetings in other parts of the country, they display Irish, American, French and Boer flags.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT is at loggerheads with the Madrid university students, who are not as loyal as they might be. Troops were sent into the university, with hardly any provocation; the City Council passed resolutions of sympathy with the students, and now the government talks of suspending the Council.

MANY PORCUPINES have appeared in Orange and Sullivan counties, N.Y., this fall. Coon hunters have several times been attacked by them, and valuable dogs have been quite disabled by the sharp spines.

THE LUMBER shipped from Quebec this year was valued at \$5,632,578, 10¢ including large quantities sent from Cape Rouge and other places to South America.

MR. HARRISON, once known as the "boy preacher," is holding services in Toronto.

LORD WOLSELEY, it is stated, has forbidden the Canadian boatmen to send correspondence to newspapers, as many of them were doing.

MRS. LYNAM, who has for so long been confined in the Lunatic Asylum near Montreal, and whose case was brought into the courts lately, has at last been examined by a doctor appointed by the court, and has been declared sane enough to be liberated.

THE YOUNG MEN of Britain train themselves in politics and public speaking by forming "mock parliaments," and having exactly the same procedure there as in the real House of Commons at Westminster. A mock parliament has now been formed at Montreal, another at Point St. Charles, and a third at Quebec.

ARCHBISHOP TASCHEREAU returned to Quebec from Rome on Sunday, and was welcomed by a great demonstration of thousands of people, to whom he gave the "Papal benediction." What with processions, decorations and illuminations, a king could not receive greater honor.

THE READING RAILWAY, to get money enough to pay interest on loans, proposed to cut down salaries and discharge men.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL of Leeds, the fifth largest town in England, consists of 64 members, and 25 of them are now teetotallers. In the recent elections, five candidates were liquor-sellers, and four were defeated: the fifth is said to be himself a teetotaller.

MR. JAMES LAING, the celebrated ship-builder of Sunderland, England, says it is not difficult to show that the present distress is due to drink; there are 157 licensed liquor-shops in that town, taking in at least \$750,000 a year.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT in Ottawa has made great strides lately, many of the churches starting temperance organizations. The Church of England, the Methodists and the Catholics of the Federal Capital are all active.

MR. STEPHEN, President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, is said to be making arrangements for a steamship line between British Columbia and Japan.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT has stopped the military and police expedition on its way to Skye, as quiet has been restored among the crofters.

JOHN GENDRON died at Arkansas, Wisconsin, at the age of 121, last Saturday. He was born near Montreal.

MANY SUGAR PLANTERS in the Southern States are said to be preparing to grow rice instead, as the sugar trade has not very bright prospects.

THE LUMBER CUT in the mills on the Ottawa this year amounted to 625,000,000 feet, a good average, worth about \$7,500,000. Eddy's mill, at Hull, heads the list with 70,000,000 feet.

EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIX deaths are stated to have been caused by cholera during its short visit to Paris. There are still a few cases in the dirtier suburbs.

THE ITALIAN HOUSE OF DEPUTIES has sent a deputation to King Humbert, to thank him for his heroism in going among the cholera patients at Naples.

MR. CHILDERS, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, is likely to retire, from ill health. Mr. Goschen, who is probably the best financier in England after Gladstone, is spoken of as his successor.